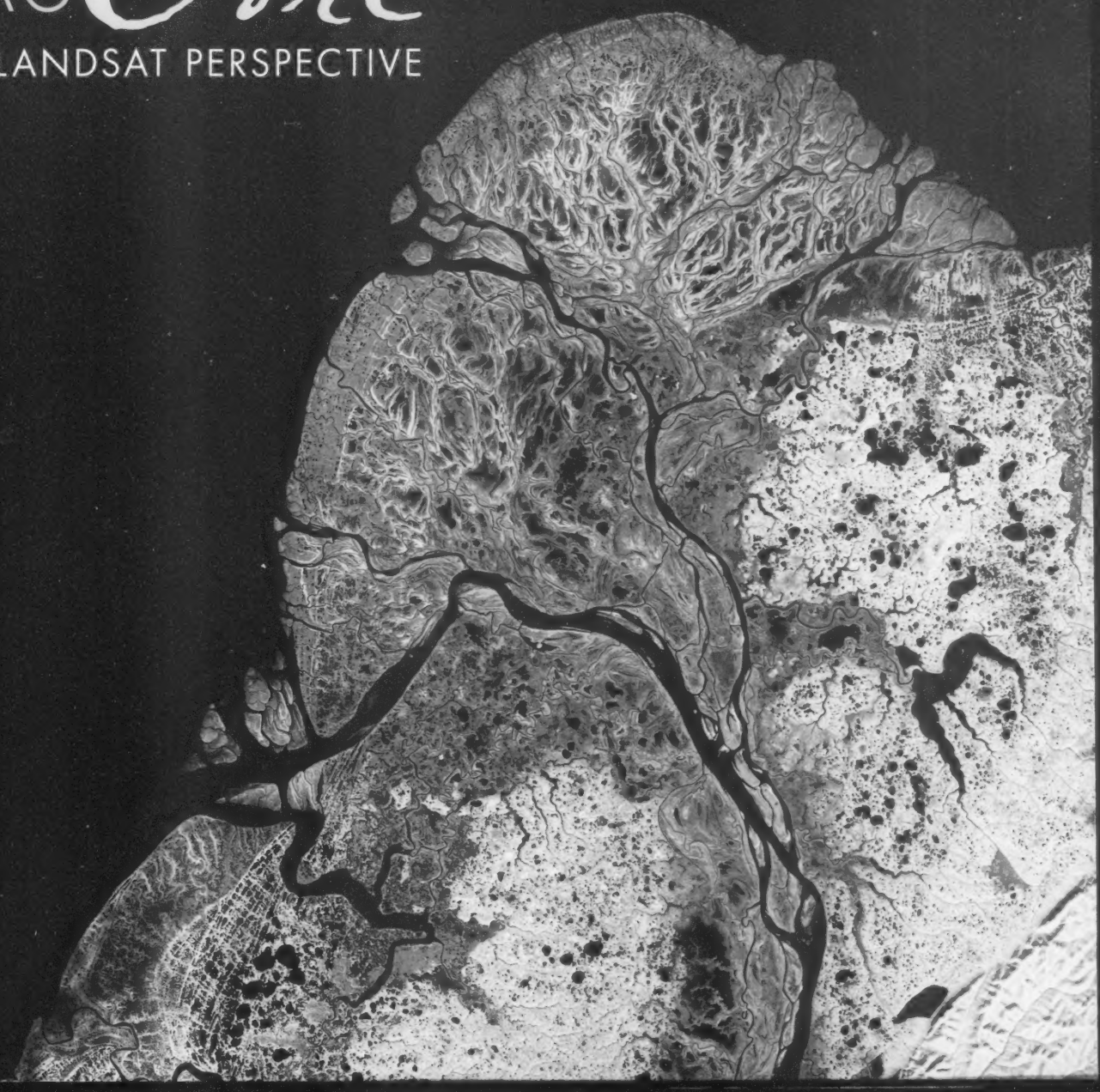
LIBRARY OF CONGRESS
Information Bulletin

Vol. 70, Nos. 7-8
July–August 2011

# EARTH AS *Art*

## A LANDSAT PERSPECTIVE

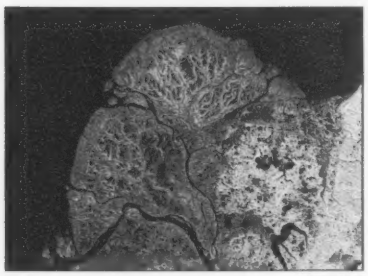


LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

# Information Bulletin

Vol. 70, Nos. 7-8 July–August 2011

JAMES H. BILLINGTON
Librarian of Congress



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**On the Cover**: Yukon Delta, Sept. 22, 2002: After beginning in northern British Columbia and flowing through the Yukon in Canada, the Yukon River crosses Alaska before emptying into the Bering Sea. Lakes, sloughs and ponds are scattered throughout this view from space of the Yukon Delta. It is one of the largest river deltas in the world, and currently protected as part of the Yukon Delta National Wildlife Refuge. *Photo courtesy U.S. Geological Survey and NASA*

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## Earth as Art: A Landsat Perspective

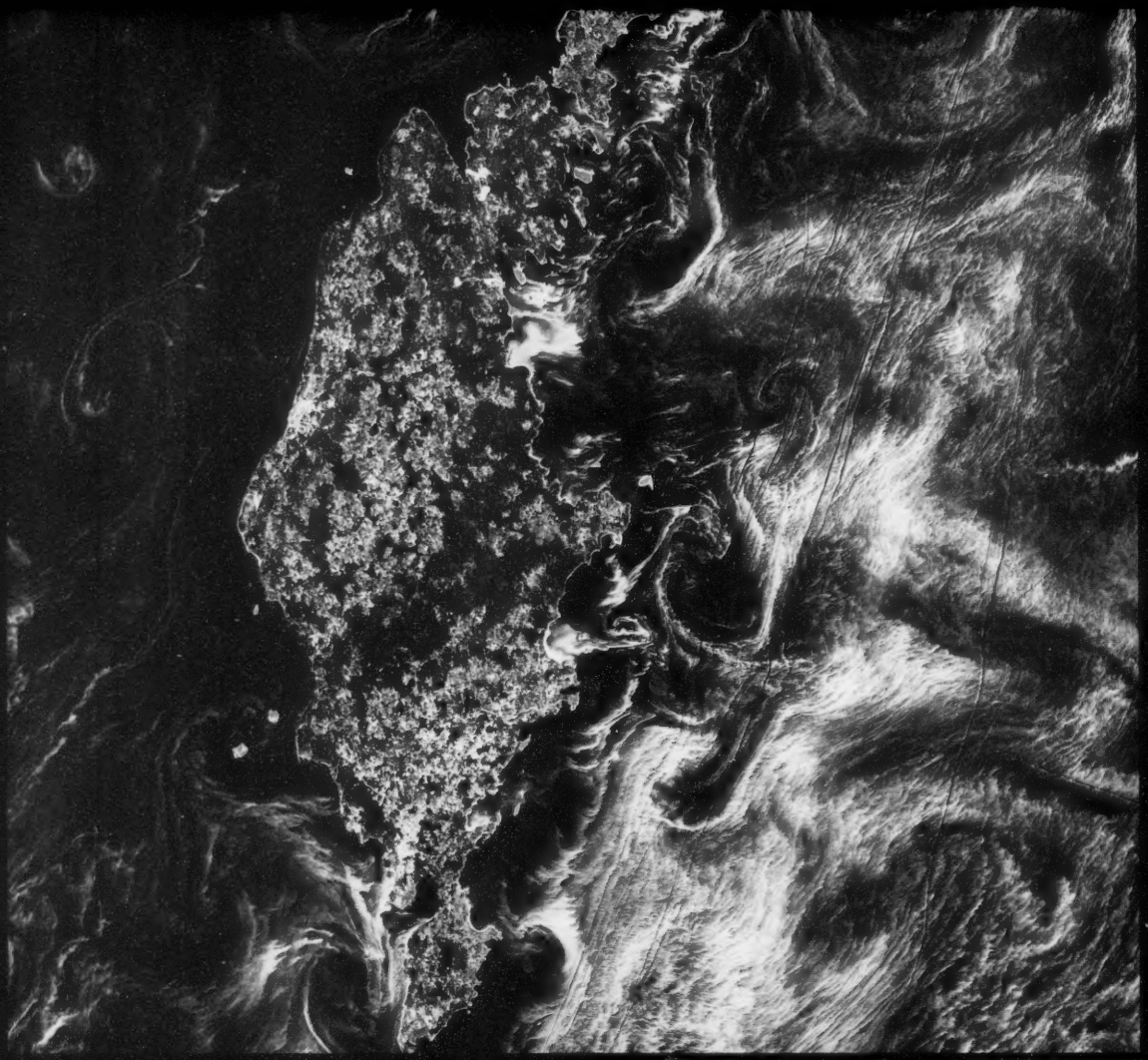
**May 31, 2011 – May 31, 2012**

**Free and Open to the Public from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Saturday**

**Exhibition Hall, Outside the Library's Geography and Map Reading Room, Basement Level of the James Madison Building**

This exhibition showcases 40 award-winning Landsat 7 images created by the U.S. Geological Survey. Since 1972, Landsat satellites have collected from space information about Earth's continents and coastal areas, enabling scientists to study many aspects of the planet and to evaluate changes caused by both natural processes and human practices. The images on display are actual digital photographs of the Earth, depicting the intricate beauty in Earth's natural patterns.

Abby Brack



All images courtesy U.S. Geological Survey and NASA

**Van Gogh from Space**
July 13, 2005

In the style of Van Gogh's painting "Starry Night," massive congregations of greenish phytoplankton swirl in the dark water around Gotland, a Swedish island in the Baltic Sea. Phytoplankton are microscopic marine plants that form the first link in nearly all ocean food chains. Population explosions, or blooms, of phytoplankton, like the one shown here, occur when deep currents bring nutrients up to sunlit surface waters, fueling the growth and reproduction of these tiny plants. Ribbon lakes and bogs are present throughout the area, created by depressions left by receding glaciers.

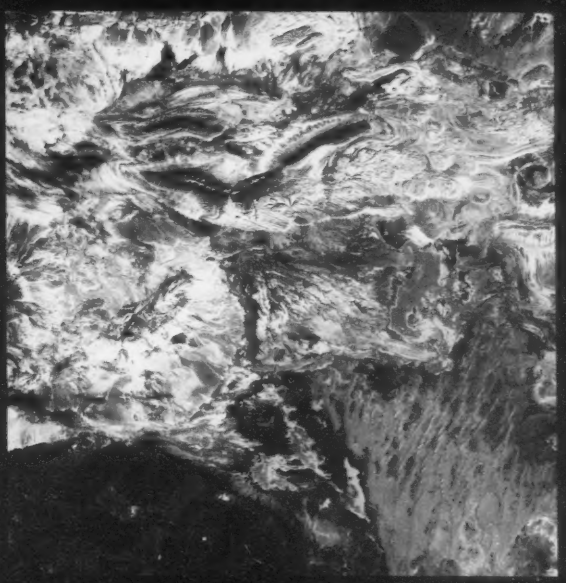
# EARTH AS *Art*

When Earth is viewed from space, cloud formations, coastlines, mountain ranges, islands, deltas, glaciers and rivers take on patterns resembling abstract art—with striking textures and brilliant colors.

These images can be seen in a new exhibit at the Library of Congress, which opened on May 31. In cooperation with the U.S. Geological Survey, "Earth as Art" is on display in the exhibition hall outside the Library's Geography and Map Reading Room, on the basement level of the James Madison Building.

**Siberian Ribbons** – June 15, 2005

Vivid colors and bizarre shapes come together in an image that could be an imaginative illustration for a fantasy story. This labyrinth of exotic features is present along the edge of Russia's Chaunskaya Bay (vivid blue half circle) in northeastern Siberia. Two major rivers, the Chaun and Palyavaam, flow into the bay, which in turn opens into the Arctic Ocean. Ribbon lakes and bogs are present throughout the area, created by depressions left by receding glaciers.



**Spilled Paint** – Feb. 10, 2003

Like poster paints run wild, this image reveals an eclectic montage of landscapes in Iran's largest desert, the Dasht-e Kavir, or Great Salt Desert. The word kavir is Persian for salt marsh. The almost uninhabited region covers an area of more than 77,000 square kilometers (29,730 square miles) and is a mix of dry streambeds, desert plateaus, mudflats, and salt marshes. Extreme heat, dramatic daily temperature swings, and violent storms are the norm in this inhospitable place.

The exhibit, which is free and open to the public from **8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Saturday,** will remain on display at the Library until May 31, 2012.

The 40 award-winning Landsat satellite images—selected for display based on their aesthetic appeal rather than their scientific value—will become a part of the permanent collection of the Library's Geography and Map Division (G&M).

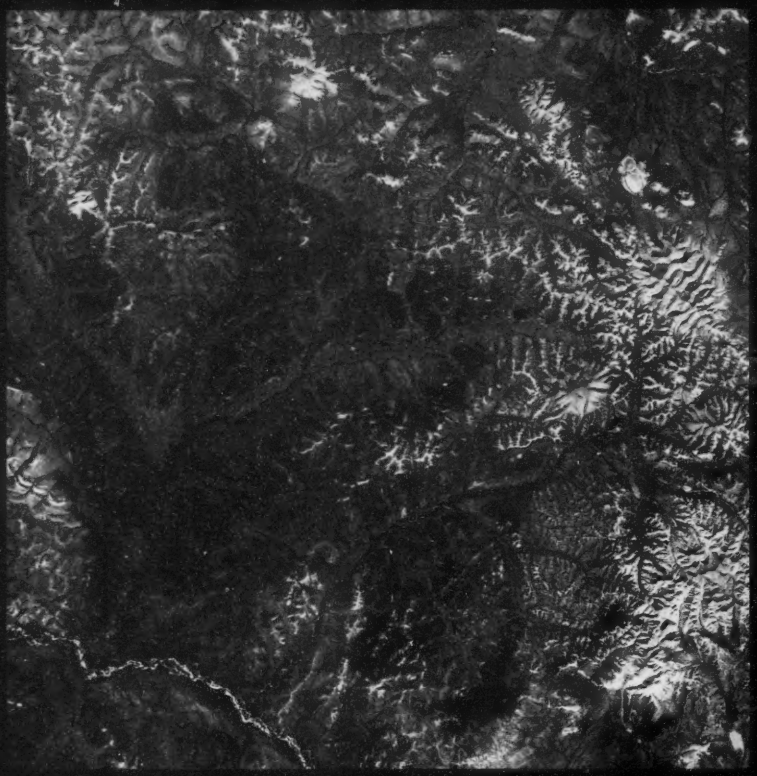
John Hébert, chief of G&M, said "The Geography and Map Division is pleased, once again, to receive the exhibition for its permanent collection and to place it on display for an extended period of time. Our patrons and staff enjoyed previous renderings of "Earth as Art," and in my preliminary review, these new "Earth as Art" images will delight all. It is amazing to see how places on Earth from space do appear as art, and yet, at the same time, reflect the ever-presence of humankind in reshaping Earth's appearance."

The Geography and Map Division hosted an earlier "Earth as Art" exhibit, which was on display from July 23, 2002, through July 3, 2005. Those images also became a part of the Library's permanent collection. The current and previous "Earth as Art" exhibitions can be viewed online at **www.loc.gov/exhibits/.**

Landsat satellites for nearly 40 years have captured images of the Earth's surface, providing data for applications in business, science, education, government and national security. The satellites monitor important natural processes and human land use such as vegetation growth, deforestation, agriculture, coastal and river erosion, snow accumulation, fresh-water reservoir replenishment and urbanization.

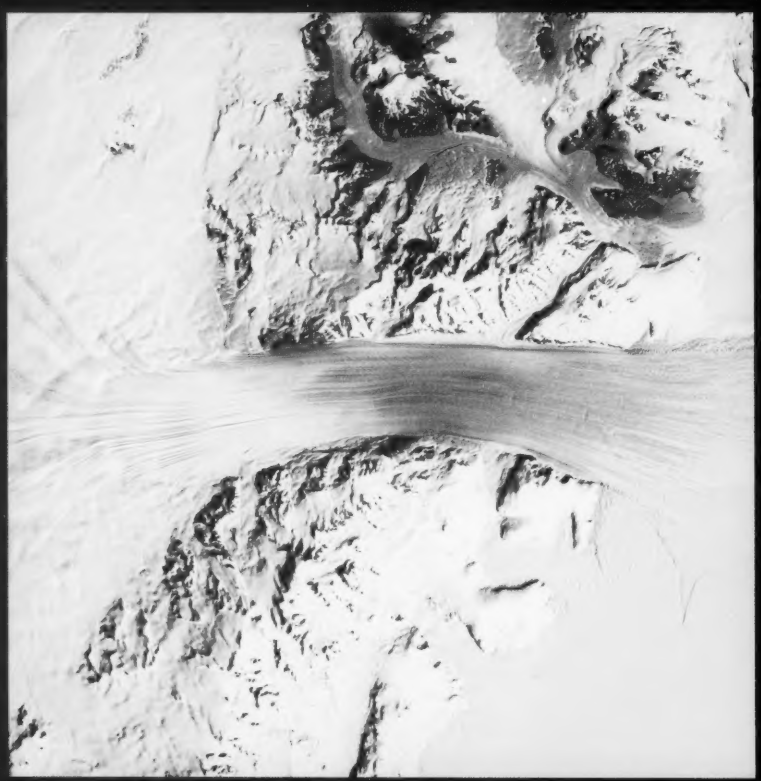
The Library's Geography and Map Division has the largest and most comprehensive collection of maps and atlases in the world, some 5.2 million cartographic items that date from the 14th century to the present. The Library's map collections contain coverage for every country and subject, and include the works of the most famous mapmakers throughout history—Ptolemy, Waldseemüller, Mercator, Ortelius and Blaeu.

For more information, visit **www.loc.gov/rr/geogmap/**.



## Anyuyskiy Volcano
July 28, 2001

The prominent crimson streak in the center of this image represents the remains of an extensive lava and mud flow. Its source is the currently dormant Anyuyskiy Volcano (orange circular shape at the right end of the streak) in northeastern Russia. Remote and largely inaccessible, the region is a rugged collection of towering volcanic peaks, steep valleys, and wild, snow-fed rivers and streams.



## Byrd Glacier
Jan. 11, 2000

Truly a river of ice, Antarctica's relatively fast-moving Byrd Glacier courses through the Transantarctic Mountains at a rate of 0.8 kilometers (0.5 miles) per year. More than 180 kilometers (112 miles) long, the glacier flows down from the polar plateau (left) to the Ross Ice Shelf (right). Long, sweeping flow lines are crossed in places by much shorter lines, which are deep cracks in the ice called crevasses. The conspicuous red patches indicate areas of exposed rock.

# New Register

## *Pallante Appointed 12th Register of Copyrights*

Librarian of Congress James H. Billington has appointed Maria A. Pallante as the 12th Register of Copyrights and director of the United States Copyright Office, effective June 1. Pallante served as the Acting Register following the retirement of Marybeth Peters on Dec. 31, 2010.

Pallante has had wide-ranging experience in copyright transactions, policy and litigation, in both the government and private sectors. In addition to Acting Register, she has held several key positions within the Copyright Office: Associate Register for Policy and International Affairs (2008-2010), Deputy General Counsel (2007-2008), and Policy Advisor (1996-1997). She spent much of her career in New York, working there from 1999-2007 as intellectual property counsel and director of the licensing group for the worldwide Guggenheim Museums, where she advised on programmatic and business initiatives related to publishing, product development and branding. She has led two national author organizations, working as Executive Director of the National Writers Union (1993-1995) and as Assistant Director of the Authors Guild (1991-1993), and was associate counsel at the Washington-based law firm and literary agency, Lichtman, Trister, Singer and Ross.

Register of Copyrights Maria Pallante

Cecelia Rogers

Pallante is a 1990 graduate of the George Washington University Law School. She earned her bachelor's degree in history from Misericordia University, where she was also awarded an honorary doctorate of humane letters. She completed a clerkship in administrative law under the Hon. G. Marvin Bober, appellate division, U.S. Department of Labor. During her career, Pallante has been a frequent speaker on copyright law at events in the United States and abroad, and has testified before Congress several times, including on the Copyright Reform Act (1993); Orphan Works (2006) and Online Enforcement of Rogue Websites (2011). She was a member of the Librarian's 1993 Advisory Committee on Copyright Registration and Deposit and is currently serving on the Department of Education's Advisory Commission on Accessible Instructional Materials in Post-Secondary Education for Students with Disabilities.

The U.S. Copyright Office has been part of the Library of Congress since 1870. The Library is the nation's oldest federal cultural institution and the main repository of American authorship. Millions of books, songs, films and other creative works have been added to the Library's unequaled collection of American creativity through the copyright registration system. ◆

All photos by Abby Brack

**Former Supreme Court Associate Justice John Paul Stevens receives the 2011 Wickersham Award for exceptional public service and dedication to the legal profession from the Friends of the Law Library of Congress on June 13, 2011.**

# John Paul Stevens Honored

## *Justice Awarded Wickersham Prize for Public Service*

By MARK HARTSELL

John Paul Stevens, one of the longest-tenured justices in the history of the U.S. Supreme Court, was honored at the Library of Congress this week for his exceptional public service and dedication to the legal profession.

The Friends of the Law Library of Congress, a nonprofit group created to encourage awareness of and provide support for the Law Library, presented the former associate justice with the 2011 Wickersham Award on June 13 in a ceremony in the Jefferson Building.

"Today's event honors a remarkable American, Justice John Paul Stevens, who contributed so much to our nation's great body of law," Law Librarian of Congress Roberta I. Shaffer wrote. "He can be assured that through the efforts of the Library of Congress, his intellectual and creative contributions to our social values will be preserved and accessible for years to come."

Stevens was nominated by President Gerald R. Ford in 1975 to replace Justice William O. Douglas on the Supreme Court. He served from December of that year until his retirement in June 2010.

The award Stevens received is named for George Wickersham, a former U.S. attorney general and co-founder of the American Law Institute who in 1932 helped found Friends of the Law Library. The award is presented annually to an individual who exemplifies exceptional public service and dedication to the legal profession.

Following the presentation of the award, Justice Stevens took the stage for an interview conducted by Gwen Ifill, managing editor of "Washington Week" and senior correspondent for "PBS NewsHour."

Sitting across from each other, Stevens and Ifill engaged in a conversation that ranged from landmark cases that landed before the Supreme Court during his tenure to his relationships with other justices to his tennis game.

(Finding that a bad knee kept him from covering the tennis court well, the 91-year-old Stevens hit on a solution. "I solved it in a way that's very unique," he said. "I have a very good friend who's my opponent. One of our unwritten rules is, he hits it to me.")

Stevens criticized one of the Supreme Court's most controversial decisions of recent years, *Citizens United v. Federal Election Commission*. In that case, the court last year held by a 5-4 majority that the government cannot ban political spending by corporations during candidate elections.

"I do think the decision was quite wrong," Stevens said. "And I think it's quite wrong to assume that money is exactly the same as speech itself. There's a vast difference between rules that dictate what a person can say in a political argument and rules that determine how money can be spent in debating issues."

Stevens declined to address *Bush v. Gore*, the decision that, in effect, resolved the 2000 presidential election in favor of George W. Bush. "It was an unusual case," he said.

Stevens expressed few regrets about votes he's cast over the years—save one. "I've only been able to identify one case that I voted on … that I think I would vote differently today," he said, referring to a 1976 decision in *Gregg v. Georgia* in which he co-authored the majority opinion that held the death penalty to be constitutional.

Asked about his relationships with the other justices, Stevens recalled a story about Thurgood Marshall, who served as an associate justice for 24 years.

Stevens, then a law clerk, saw an interview in which Marshall said the justices all got along well personally, despite their professional differences.

Stevens was skeptical. Marshall was only being polite in public, he thought. Then, years later, Stevens joined the court himself.

"I found out it was true," he said. "In their personal relations, the justices get along beautifully. They are, in fact, good friends, and I still feel that every member of the court that is there now I consider a friend."

There are, he said, differences on the merits of cases about which they feel strongly, but they don't affect the ability of the court to function.

"One of the great things about that institution is that they really are able to work together in a cordial and honest way without having the distraction of personal animosity," he said.

The nearly 35 years Stevens spent on the Supreme Court made him the third-longest-serving justice in the court's history.

**After receiving the 2011 Wickersham Award, former Supreme Court Associate Justice John Paul Stevens answers questions on stage from journalist Gwen Ifill.**

Asked the secret to that long success, Stevens looked toward his wife, Maryan Mulholland Simon, in the audience and said, to laughter, "The most important key to my survival is the advice I'd give to everybody in the room: Marry a beautiful dietitian."

Gwen Ifill's private interview with Justice Stevens at the Library of Congress later that day is accessible on the PBS website at **www.pbs.org/newshour/bb/law/jan-june11/justicestevens_06-13.html** ◆

*Mark Hartsell is editor of the Gazette, the Library's staff newsletter.*

**2011 Blackstone Award winner William Burton**

**Blackstone Award**

The Friends of the Law Library also honored William C. Burton, a partner in Sagat Burton in New York and the founder and chairman of the Burton Awards for Legal Achievement. Burton is the author of "Burton's Legal Thesaurus," a reference work that serves as a foundational text for researchers. Burton received the inaugural Blackstone Award, named for English jurist Sir William Blackstone, for his significant contributions to advancing the mission and activities of the Law Library.

# 15th-Century Legal Tome on Display

The special event honoring Justice Stevens also featured the display of the "Casus breves" of Johannes de Turnhout (1446-1492), a 15th-century legal reference work recently donated to the Law Library by Julie Chrystyn Opperman in honor of her husband, Dwight D. Opperman.

The rare, two-volume 1478 edition reports the observations of major 14th-century commentators on civil law. Only 13 copies of this edition—the oldest—are known to exist.

The "Casus breves" reports the observations of major 14th-century civil law commentators. Compiled by de Turnhout and other legal scholars at the University of Louvain in Belgium, the work draws from various legal authorities' commentaries on the "Corpus juris civilis" ("Body of Civil Law"), a collection of fundamental works in jurisprudence issued from 529 to 534 by Roman Emperor Justinian I. The two volumes are organized according to the original divisions or titles of the "Corpus juris civilis" and present the opinion of one commentator on each point. ◆

Abby Brack

Abby Brack

**Law Librarian of Congress Roberta Stevens visits with the Oppermans. Julie Chrystyn Opperman (center) donated a a 15th-century legal reference work in honor of her husband, Dwight, (left).**

# Supreme Court Resources in the Library

The Library of Congress contains the nation's largest corpus of the papers of chief justices and associate justices of the U.S. Supreme Court (39 in all).

Among the chief justices, the division holds the papers of Oliver Ellsworth, John Marshall, Roger Taney, Salmon Chase, Morrison R. Waite, Melville W. Fuller, William Howard Taft, Charles Evans Hughes, Harlan Fiske Stone and Earl Warren. The Library's collection of papers of associate justices under Chief Justice Warren (1953-1969) include Hugo L. Black, William O. Douglas, Felix Frankfurter, Harold H. Burton, Robert H. Jackson, William J. Brennan, Byron R. White, Thurgood Marshall and Arthur J. Goldberg.

In 2004, the Library opened to the public the papers of Associate Justice Harry A. Blackmun—who served 1970-1994—and mounted an online presentation of selected items (**www.loc.gov/rr/mss/blackmun/**).

In these personal papers may be found private documents that reveal the hidden process of judicial decision-making. Because the high court carefully guards its privacy, some of this information may be found nowhere else in the world.

To serve congressional and public requests for resources pertaining to this historic nomination, the Law Library of Congress developed a web presentation on Elena Kagan on its Supreme Court Nominations site at **www.loc.gov/law/find/court-nominations.php**.

The site includes links to articles and books by the nominee, congressional documents, Supreme Court oral arguments and web resources. From mainstream media to new media such as blogs (and law blogs, or "blawgs"), the site offers information about Kagan as well as Supreme Court nomination hearings dating to 1971. Featured nominees include confirmed Supreme Court Justices Sonia Sotomayor, Samuel A. Alito and John G. Roberts; another featured nominee is Harriet E. Miers, whose nomination was withdrawn on Oct. 27, 2005. ◆

# The View from 30,000 ... Maps!

## *Library's Online Map Collections Reach Milestone*

By DONNA URSCHEL

If you've ever wondered where you are, or where you might be going, know this: if you have access to a computer, the Library of Congress now has 30,000 maps online to guide you.

In the basement level of the Library's James Madison Building in Washington, D.C., working amid giant scanners, the staff of the Library's Geography and Map Division recently digitized and placed online its 30,000th map.

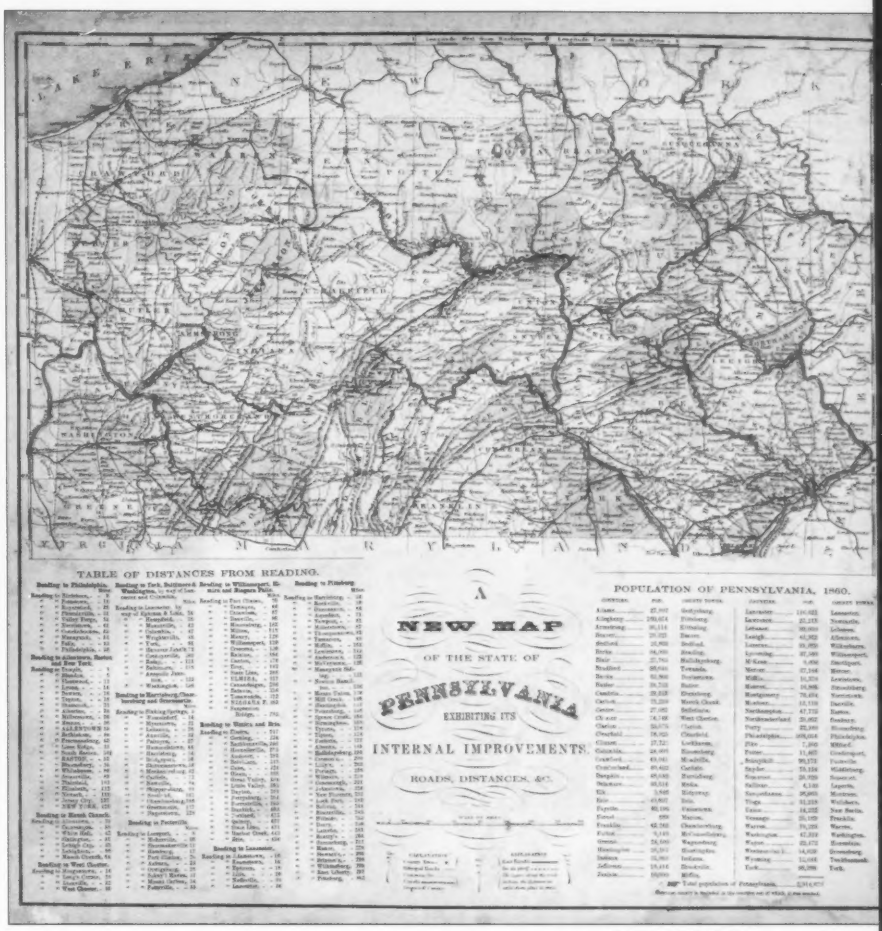
The milestone is quite an achievement when you consider the size of map files. "They are large-format images that run into gigabytes of data," said Colleen Cahill, digital conversion coordinator.

Also, "one map" can actually be an atlas with many images, such as the 30,000th item, the Berks County, Pa., land ownership atlas from 1862 (**http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.gmd/g3823bm.gla00029**). This atlas is one of the earliest known county land-ownership atlases produced in the United States.

The division began scanning maps in 1995, when it received its first scanner. In 1996, the Library started posting maps online in its American Memory website. A few more scanners have been added through the years.

The Digital Team has worked its way through several interesting collections including panoramic, land ownership, Civil War and American Revolutionary maps. The team also fulfills digitizing requests from Congress, Library staff, federal agencies and patrons via the Library's Photoduplication Service.

A fan letter recently arrived from Peter Kastor, a history professor at Washington University in St. Louis, who wrote division chief John Hébert: "I want to call attention to the value of the historic maps that you have placed online. Many of the most valuable items for my research are on your website and having access to high-resolution digital versions proved immensely helpful ..."




Geography and Map Division

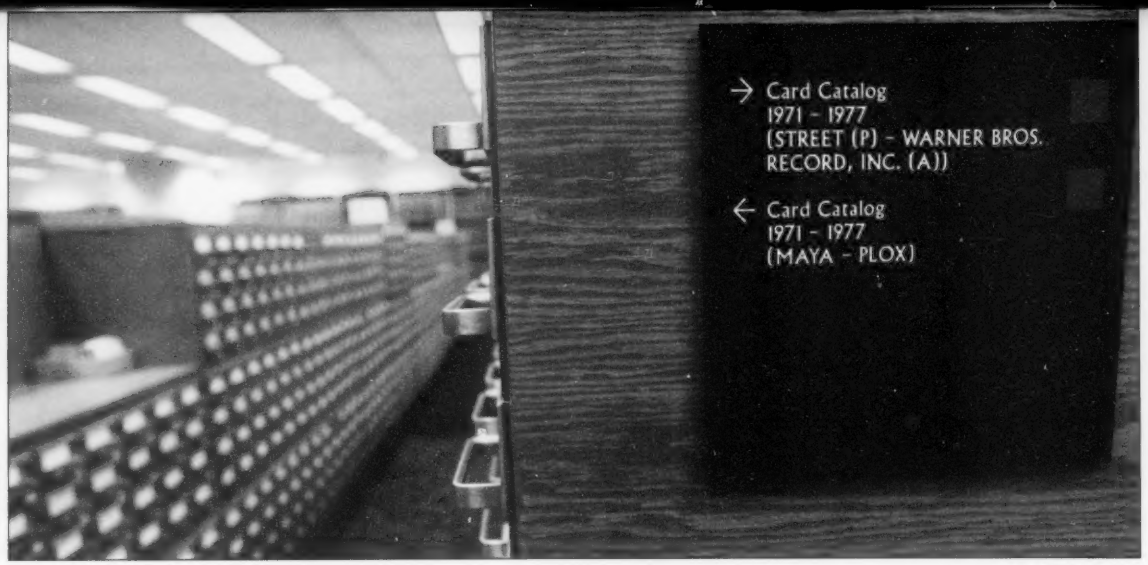
**This map of Pennsylvania is included in the Berks County, Pa., land ownership atlas from 1862.**

The online maps include some of the world's great cartographic treasures, such as the 1507 Waldseemüller World Map, the first map to show the word "America" (**www.loc.gov/rr/geogmap/waldexh.html**).

To access more maps online, go to **http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/gmdhtml/gmdhome.html** and **www.loc.gov/topics/maps.php**

To explore how to use maps in the classroom, educators can visit the Library's "Zoom Into Maps" web presentation at **www.loc.gov/teachers/classroommaterials/presentationsandactivities/presentations/maps/introduction.html.** ◆

*Donna Urschel is a public affairs specialist in the Office of Communications.*




All photos by Abby Brack

# From Paper to Electrons

## *Copyright Office Digitizing Catalog Records*

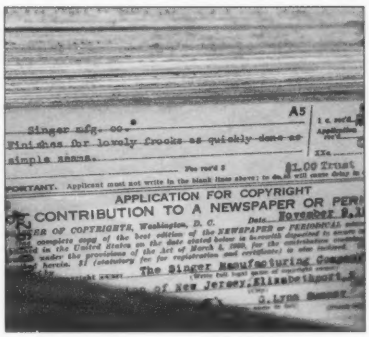
By WENDI A. MALONEY

The U.S. Copyright Office aims to finish scanning 10 million copyright catalog cards by Sept. 30, 2011, in a project to digitize about 70 million paper copyright records from 1870 to 1977. When completed, the project will preserve the records and make them accessible in a searchable database already containing entries from 1978 to the present.

In January, the office started scanning catalog cards indexing copyright registrations from 1971 to 1977. "These cards are our most immediate priority at the moment," says Mike Burke, Copyright Office manager of the digitization project. "We're working backward, from 1977 to 1870, because a user survey showed higher interest in the more recent records, many of which relate to works still under copyright protection."

Copyright records reflect the ownership of creative works. Congress enacted the first federal copyright law in 1790; "The Philadelphia Spelling Book" by John Barry was registered nine days later. Since then, nearly 34 million new works have been registered, and hundreds of thousands of documents related to copyright ownership have been recorded.

Copyrighted works range from the well-known to the obscure. They include novels, plays, motion pictures, sound recordings, sculpture, photographs, architectural designs, computer software and more.


APPLICATION FOR COPYRIGHT
CONTRIBUTION TO A NEWSPAPER OR PERI
The Singer Manufacturing Company

Each year, thousands of people search copyright records. Some visit the Copyright Office to consult the paper records; others pay a fee to have office staff conduct a search. "We receive all manner of requests," says Rosemary Kelly, head of the Office's Records Research and Certification Section.

"We've researched the copyrights to typewriter-repair manuals, commemorative World's Fair pieces, and historical baseball cards as well as 'The Wizard of Oz' films and Beatles songs."

Many searches arise from projects seeking rights to use copyrighted material. A filmmaker, for example, might want to identify the owner of a musical work to negotiate rights to use it in a film. Other searches result from copyright infringement cases and estate settlements.

"Searches for all the copyrights owned by a deceased author or composer help family members establish the exact worth of an estate," Kelly says. "Although this kind of search can be complicated, especially when rights have been transferred from one owner to another, digitization should make many searches easier and quicker."

Bradley Daigle, director of digital curation at the University of Virginia, believes digitization may also facilitate historical and scholarly research. Daigle served as a consultant to the Copyright Office in planning the digitization project.

"Depending on how they're indexed, the digitized records will be a gold mine for scholars, teachers, and others who want to document economic, cultural, literary and legal history from these materials," he says.

Pre-1978 copyright records exist in several different formats, among them hand-written registers of copyrights dating from 1790; later application forms bound into books; documents recording assignments, trans-

fers and terminations of copyrights; and a catalog containing more than 48 million cards in 25,723 drawers.

The card catalog holds original applications from 1898 to 1945, when application forms were catalog-card size, and it indexes applications filed from 1945 to 1978, available in bound books. In addition, the card catalog includes millions of entries for recorded documents. In fact, it is the most comprehensive and up-to-date index of pre-1978 copyright registrations and recorded documents. No exact duplicate exists, and many works recorded in it remain under copyright protection.

The digitization project started with the Catalog of Copyright Entries, a 660-volume index to copyright registrations published from 1891 through 1977. While fairly complete, the volumes do not include recorded documents. "A combination of concerns about preservation, cost, and public benefit informed the Office's priorities for scanning," Burke says.

Working through the Library's Federal Library and Information Network Program, the Copyright Office entered into an agreement to have the nonprofit Internet Archive digitize the Catalog of Copyright Entries. Internet Archive was already digitizing Library materials at a scanning center in the Adams Building.

Scanning began in February 2010 with volumes for 1977. As of April 2011, 25 percent of the volumes had been scanned; the remainder should be completed within three years. Internet Archive is making catalog volumes available on its website (**www.archive.org**) and supplying the Copyright Office with digital copies.

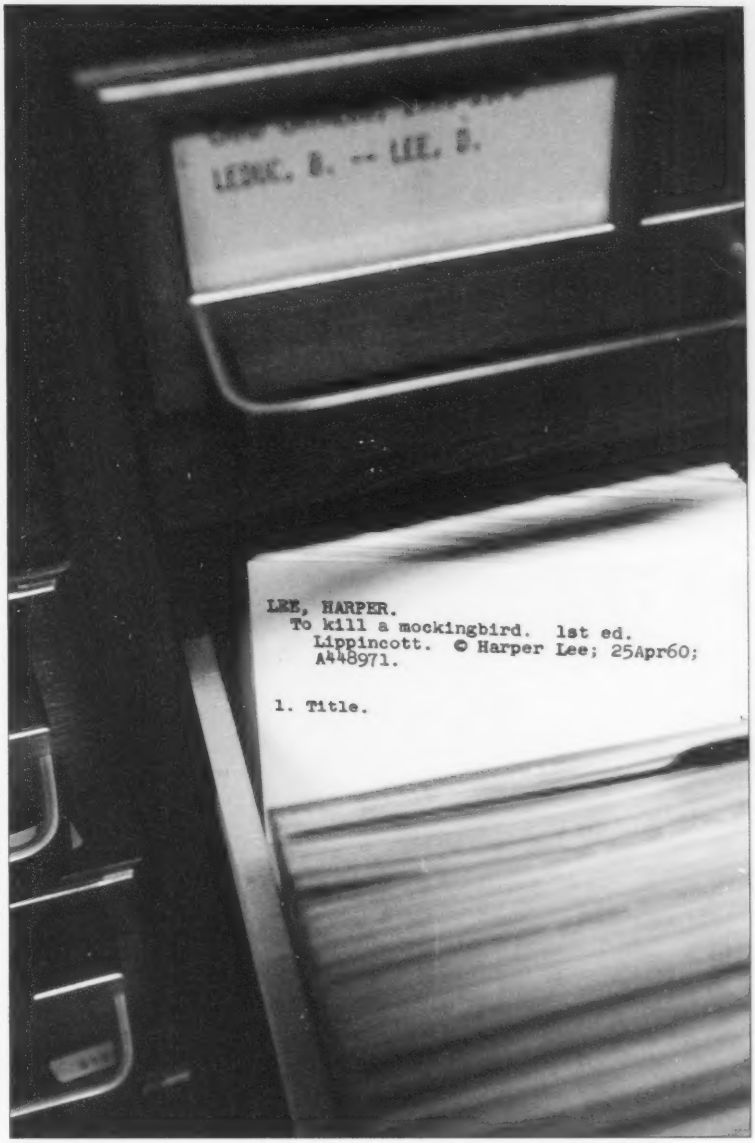
From April to August 2010, through a contract managed by the Office of Strategic Initiatives (OSI), a contractor scanned 2.4 million catalog cards that reflect copyright assignments and transfers from 1870 to 1977. "These cards complement the Catalog of Copyright Entries, which do not include assignments and transfers," Burke says.

Shortly after completion of these cards, a different contractor, working under a new OSI-managed contract, began scanning catalog cards that index copyright registrations from 1971 to 1977—the set is anticipated to be completed by the end of this fiscal year.

As cards are being scanned, another major phase of the project has begun: the effort to make the digitized records searchable. Copyright Office staff has started entering index terms from imaged records into a database. As of April 2011, staff had indexed about 73,000 records. This phase of the project will continue as scanning proceeds and is expected to be the most time-consuming aspect of digitization.

"When the project is finished, we will have a single database of copyright records linked to images of pre-1978 cards, applications, Catalog of Copyright Entries data, and recorded documents," Burke says. "Eventually, the database could cover the period from 1790 to the present."

To search post-1978 copyright records, go to **www.copyright.gov**. ◆




**Copyright records for a 1926 Singer sewing machine advertisement, opposite page, and Harper Lee's 1960 novel "To Kill A Mockingbird," above, will be scanned as part of the digitization project.**

*Wendi A. Maloney is a writer-editor in the U.S. Copyright Office.*

# Maps of the Civil War

## *Charting the Course of Historical Mapmaking*

By JOHN R. HÉBERT

How can a war proceed without maps? And how does one obtain maps for a region of the United States that had not been adequately mapped from a military point of view? Could maps be used to depict other issues related to the Civil War—for example, the extent of slave-holding, by county, in the South?

Those questions and more were answered May 20 during "Re-imagining the U.S. Civil War: Reconnaissance, Surveying and Cartography" at the annual conference of the Geography and Map Division/Philip Lee Phillips Society held at the Library of Congress. The Phillips Society is a friends group that over the years has provided much support to programs of the division.

The conference featured six speakers who explored elements of cartography, from the creation to the use of maps introduced or continued during the war.

Edward Ayers, president of the University of Richmond, spoke about using modern geographic information systems and geospatial data to explore more deeply the social reactions to the conflict.

Susan Schulten of the University of Denver explored "Mapping the Strength of the Rebellion" by considering, among other themes, the introduction of thematic maps on slavery or agricultural production in the South at the outset of the war.

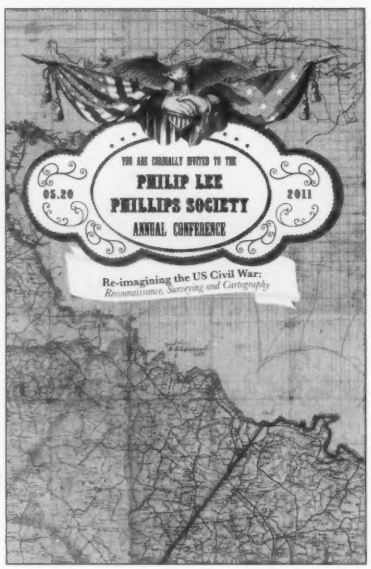
Richard W. Stephenson, a Civil War maps authority and a former member of Geography and Map, provided an overview of cartographic preparedness on each side of the conflict as the war ensued and progressed.

John Cloud of the National Ocean Survey described both the nautical and topographical contributions of the U.S. Coast Survey during the war, revealing the substantial role played by the Survey in providing vital data for the blockade of Southern ports and on topographical mapping during the Sherman campaign.

Adrienne Lundgren of the Library's Conservation Division described then-new methods used to reproduce maps and documents in the field.

All photos by Abby Brack

**Edward Ayers discusses the use of geographic information systems for Civil War maps; below, the symposium program brochure.**




Robert Mergel of Ohio State University and Columbus Community College provided a re-enactment of the activities of one of the Union's important mapmakers, William E. Merrill.

The presentations provided new insights on a topic that's been studied for some 150 years—for example, the use of geographic information systems to analyze and depict the movement of freed slaves; the immediate realization North and South of the inadequacy of contemporary cartographic data to inform the militaries of the lay of the land; the little-appreciated but deep contributions of the U.S. Coast Survey to an effective coastal blockade by Union forces; and the capabilities of both sides to reproduce multiple copies of vital, fresh cartographic data in the field, comparable to modern-day photocopying.

The Civil War clearly was not just a story of decisive battles and movements but also of the development of cartographic techniques that expanded knowledge of the conflict area.

The U.S. Geological Survey was formed some 20 years later with the mission of providing detailed mapping of the United States. But access to current data didn't exist during the Civil War, and mapping initially depended on securing copies of contemporary county maps or consulting large state maps, if either existed.

Mapmakers in the field otherwise made observations on the fly—often to the peril of combating forces, as the speakers illustrated.

**Robert Mergel, in period dress, re-created the processes of a Union mapmaker while Adrienne Lundgren of the Library's Conservation Division described then-new methods used to reproduce maps and documents in the field. The map is a detail of Jedediah Hotchkiss' 1863 field sketch of the Battle of Bristoe Station, Va., part of the Library's extensive collections.**

The Geography and Map Division hosted the conference as a contribution to the understanding of the war during this 150th anniversary of the conflict. In addition, the division placed digital files of its holdings of Civil War-era maps online and launched a website, Places in History, which documents on a weekly basis the conflict as it developed 150 years ago.

The division also provided tours of its collections for conference attendees and held an open house, displaying its rich Civil War map collection, the next morning.

Additional material regarding the cartographic history of the war is available at **http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/collections/civil_war_maps** and **www.loc.gov/rr/geogmap/placesinhistory.** ◆

*John R. Hébert is chief of the Geography and Map Division.*

# Facing Change

## *Library Collaborates on Documentary Photo Project*

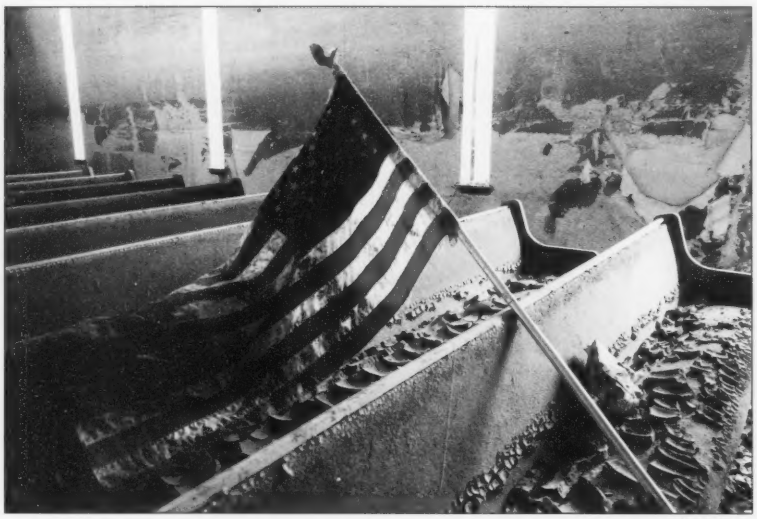
The Library of Congress and a group of the country's top photographers recently announced a collaboration to facilitate the archiving and publication of a major documentary photo project.

The group, known as Facing Change: Documenting America, serves as a contemporary counterpart to the photographers employed in the 1930s and 1940s by the Farm Security Administration, a federal project that documented the experiences of Americans at all economic levels during the Great Depression and World War II. Those period photographs—including work by such iconic names in photography as Dorothea Lange, Walker Evans and Gordon Parks—are now available to the public through the Library of Congress, which holds them in its Farm Security Administration Collection in the Prints and Photographs Division. All 175,000 of the historic images also are online at **www.loc.gov/pictures/collection/fsac/.**

The collaborative agreement will allow the Library to publish books based on the Facing Change images, which document numerous aspects of contemporary American life through photographs, sound and video files. The Library will begin by exploring born-digital archiving and preservation practices with the Facing Change photographers, building on experience gained through the Library's National Digital Information Infrastructure and Preservation Program, **www.digitalpreservation.gov**.

"Looking forward 50 or 60 years we feel confident that the documentation provided in these contemporary photographs will be treasured by historians, photographers and the public—much as the FSA collection, which arrived newly minted back in the 1940s, is treasured by all those groups today," said Helena Zinkham, chief of the Library's Prints and Photographs Division.

Facing Change was founded in 2009 by Pulitzer Prize-winning photographers Anthony Suau and Lucian Perkins.



Stanley Greene

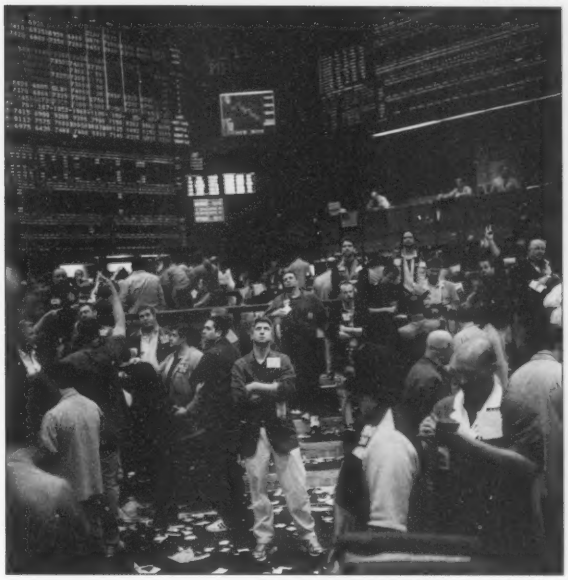
**Following the devastation of Hurricane Katrina, an abandoned American flag lies at the Lawless Baptist Church in the lower ninth ward of New Orleans.**

Debbie Fleming Caffery

**A woman prays in the sugar cane fields of St. Mary Parish, La., in 1976.**

Danny Wilcox Fraiser

Carlos Javier Ortiz



Anthony Suau

**Top left, hunting in the winter on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation, S.D.**

**Bottom left, at the Chicago Mercantile Exchange, traders on the floor watch markets swing 100 points or more a day as the mortgage crisis plays out on Wall Street.**

Andrew Lichtenstein

**Top right, Chamille Woods holds on to Devona White as they view the body of Siretha White. The 10-year-old girl was shot and killed during her birthday party in Chicago's Englewood neighborhood.**

**Bottom right, James Weekly, the last resident of Pigeon Holler, W.Va., refuses to sell his land to strip mining companies.**

"Our vision ... was to create a nonprofit collective comprised of the most talented photographers and journalists currently working in the U.S. and to embrace an interactive technology platform which connects our work to the public," Suau said.

Facing Change is incorporated as a 501(c)3 charitable organization, and derives its funding from private foundations and public entities including the Soros Foundation, Leica Cameras, FrenchTV, and Photoshelter. It currently exhibits its photography at **www.facingchange.org.**

The Prints and Photographs Division is responsible for acquiring, preserving, securing, processing and serving the Library's unique and vast collection of visual materials, which includes more than 14 million photographs, historical prints, posters, cartoons, fine art prints, and architectural and engineering designs. While international in scope, the collections are particularly strong in materials documenting the history of the United States and the lives, interests, and achievements of the American people. ◆

# American Enlightenment in Paris

## *Historian David McCullough Discusses New Book*

By AUDREY FISCHER

When historian David McCullough announced his intention to write a book about Americans in Paris, the assumption was his subjects would be Thomas Jefferson, John Adams or Benjamin Franklin.

After all, McCullough has received the Pulitzer Prize for his biographies of John Adams and Harry Truman.

But this time his interest was not in the founders or the presidents. Nor was he interested in revisiting the well-documented experience of the "lost generation"—expatriate writers like Gertrude Stein and Ernest Hemingway who flocked to Paris after World War I.

"The 'lost generation' was never lost. They were in Paris," quipped McCullough.

Instead, McCullough wanted to explore less well-charted territory—Americans who went to Paris in the years between 1830 and 1900, not, as he observed, "to make a social splash but with the ambition to excel."

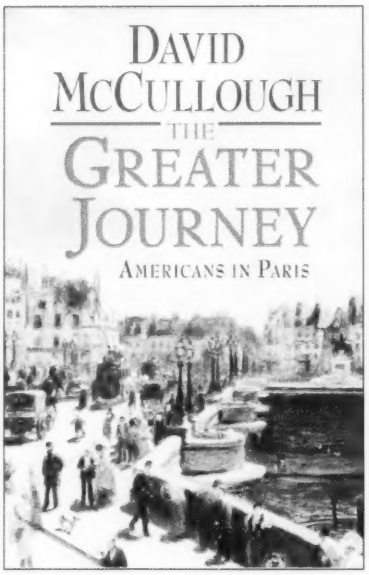
"The old world was the new world to them," said McCullough.

McCullough discussed his latest work, "The Greater Journey: Americans in Paris" at the Library of Congress on June 1. The private event, sponsored by America's Trust, with support from the Marshall Coyne Foundation, was attended by members of Congress from both sides of the aisle. The event was hosted by Librarian of Congress James H. Billington, who called McCullough, "the chronicler of people in America."

"My own path and work began at the Library of Congress 50 years ago this year," recalled McCullough. "I am more indebted to this great institution than I can say. It is the mother church of the library system in America."

By his own admission, the historian spent "the best four years" of his professional life chronicling the "brave and ambitious Americans with talent who set off for Paris—the greatest center of medicine, painting, sculpture and architecture in the world."

Some, like authors James Fenimore Cooper and Harriet Beecher Stowe,




were already famous in America. But others, like painters George P.A. Healy, John Singer Sargent and Mary Cassatt, and sculptor Augustus Saint-Gaudens would hone their craft in Paris and become renown in their field.

Medical students Oliver Wendell Holmes and Mary Putnam, and physician Elizabeth Blackwell would train in what was then the medical capital of the world. Unlike puritanical American physicians, Parisian practitioners had access to cadavers and could examine members of the opposite sex. McCullough noted that these social factors put American medicine woefully behind the times.

Future statesman Charles Sumner would learn much from his eclectic education at the Sorbonne. But perhaps his greatest lesson would come from his personal observations of how black students were "well received" by their fellow classmates. His revelation that "the distance between free blacks and whites among us is derived from education, and does not exist in the nature of things" would, in time, lead him to become a staunch abolitionist and one of the most powerful voices on the subject in Congress.

Samuel F.B. Morse came to Paris to paint his masterpiece. His depiction of the House of Representatives hangs in the halls of Congress today. But he would also befriend Louis Daguerre and bring the invention of the daguerreotype to America, where the field of photography was in its infancy. Other observations made in Paris would lead to his invention of the telegraph.

But life in Paris during the 19th century was not without its perils. The cholera epidemic of 1832 left 18,000 dead in the city in period of six months. And the flight of American visitors from the bloody Franco-Prussian War, which resulted in the fall of Paris on Jan. 28, 1871, reduced the American colony in Paris to 150—from a record 4,500 the previous summer, in addition to some 8,000 American tourists.

The only statesman to remain was Elihu Washburne, U.S. minister to France, who felt it was his duty to remain at his post "as long as there are Americans here." Washburne represented Illinois in the U.S. House of Representatives from 1853 until his brief appointment by President Ulysses S. Grant to the position of secretary of state in March 1869. Washburne withdrew 12 days later due to a brief illness but subsequently accepted the assignment in Paris, where he was influential in negotiating the armistice for the Franco-Prussian War.

Well-known and highly regarded in his day—even touted as a presidential candidate—Washburne has fallen into relative obscurity.

"If it does nothing else, I hope my book brings this man, too long unknown, to the fore," said McCullough.

With the assistance of the Manuscript Division's Jeff Flannery, McCullough's longtime researcher Mike Hill made a thrilling discovery at the Library of Congress. Mixed in with Washburne's correspondence were letterpress copies of the diplomat's diary entries. Washburne had kept a detailed diary of his assignment

broad, including the 1870 Siege of Paris. The original diary was later located in Washburne's ancestral home in his native Livermore, Maine.

McCullough also hopes his book will impress upon Americans how "the history of France, the impact of its culture, has affected our history, our story, us." He cited Pierre L'Enfant's plan for the city of Washington, the gift of the Statue of Liberty, names of U.S. cities and rivers as just a few examples, in addition to French cuffs, French perfume and french fries.

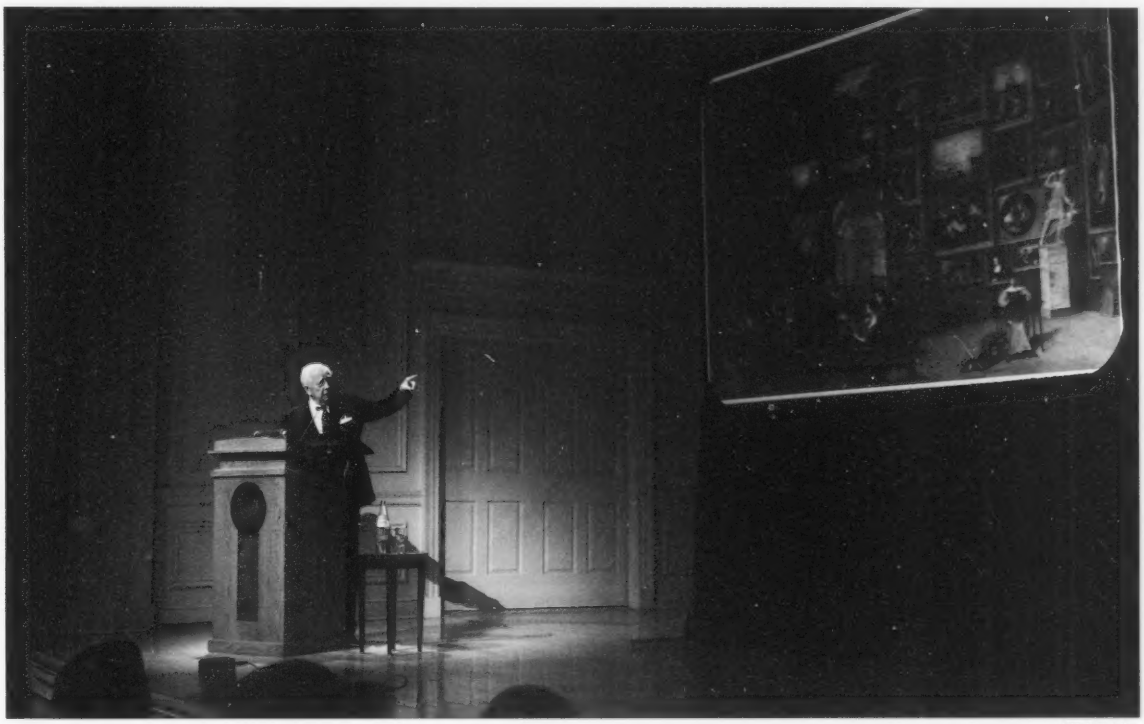
McCullough is also passionate about passing our history on to future generations.

In conclusion, he said, "We have a big job of sustaining the story of how we began and who we are. It is up to all of us to pass it on to our children and grandchildren. Take them to historic sites. Show them the places you love. And incorporate theater, music, art and architecture into the teaching of history."

He added, "Never forget how blessed we are to have libraries—free to the people—in which we can explore to our hearts content a whole realm of ideas. It is an American way of life we should never take for granted." ◆

John Harrington

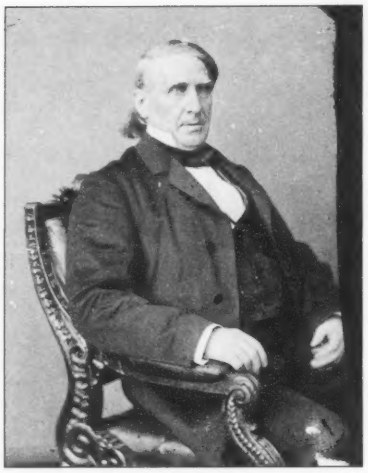
**Librarian of Congress James Billington congratulates David McCullough on the publication of his new book as wife Rosalee McCullough looks on.**



John Harrington

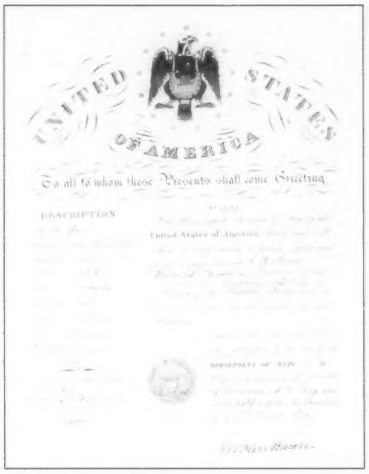
**David McCullough delivers an illustrated lecture about 19th-century Americans in Paris.**

# Display Highlights Library's Resources on 19th-Century Americans in Paris



U.S. Secretary of State and Illinois Congressman Elihu Washburne, ca. 1860-1875

Mary Cassatt's "The Banjo Lesson," 1894




Samuel Morse's passport, 1829

To represent the scope of research that was done at the Library of Congress to compile "The Greater Journey," a display of 24 items from the Library's multi-format collections was assembled by Manuscript Division curators Barbara Bair and Michelle Krowl. The items were on display in the foyer of the Coolidge Auditorium for viewing by attendees of the historian's lecture.

Major collections referenced in the Manuscript Division were the papers of statesman Elihu Washburne and painter and inventor Samuel F. B. Morse, and the microfilm edition of the papers of sculptor Augustus Saint-Gaudens. Items on display included Morse's U.S. passport (1829) and Washburne's Dec. 25, 1870, diary entry, "Never had a sadder Christmas dawned in any city…"

The Prints and Photographs Division houses many images created by American in Paris during the 19th century. Among them are prints of Mary Cassatt's "The Banjo Lesson" (1894). Also on display was a photographic portrait of Washburne (ca. 1860-1875).

Maps of Paris (1831 and 1870) from the Geography and Map Division appear in the book's introductory pages. On display was educator Emma Willard's "Journal and Letters from France" (General Collections), opened to an 1839 map of Paris.

McCullough devotes a chapter to "American Sensations" (les sensations américaines). These included showman P. T. Barnum and the diminutive Tom Thumb, a youth who stood two feet high. On display from the Rare Book and Special Collections Division were pamphlets titled "The History of Tom Thumb" and "Sketch of the Life of Charles S. Stratton, the Man in Miniature, known as General Tom Thumb," and from the Prints and Photographs Division, a published version of a daguerreotype of Barnum and Tom Thumb (ca. 1840s).

Sheet music for "The Banjo" by L.M. Gottschalk, 1855

Another American sensation was piano prodigy Louis Moreau Gottschalk who, at the age of 15, was the first American to give a solo performance on a Paris stage. Gottschalk's manuscript score for "La Jota Argonesa" (1852) and sheet music bearing his engraved portrait were culled for the display from the Music Division.

Also on display was "Galignani's New Paris Guide," from the General Collections, which was open to show an ad for Galignani's Messenger. Accessible in the Library's Newspaper and Current Periodicals Reading Room, Galignani's Messenger was perhaps one of the historian's most important resources for studying Americans in Paris.

In McCullough's source notes he writes, "The advantage of the English language newspaper Galignani's Messenger as a window on American life in Paris can hardly be overstated. Founded in 1814, it became a daily paper that covered virtually all aspects of political, business, cultural, social and international news and with a degree of objectivity rare for a Paris paper. For following events surrounding les sensations américaines is has been of immense help." ◆

*—Audrey Fischer*

# VHP Marks Milestones

## *New Veterans Collections, Presentations*

Now in its second decade of collecting, preserving and sharing the first-person recollections of U.S. war veterans, the Veterans History Project (VHP) of the American Folklife Center at the Library of Congress has reached several major milestones—10,000 of its more than 75,000 collections are now digitized and accessible online and it has mounted its 34th web presentation, "Wings of War," with a focus on military aviation.

"Our digitization process is ongoing. We hope to digitize thousands more in the coming years, making more collections accessible to the American people and the world," said Veterans History Project Director Bob Patrick. "These stories run the gamut from tragic to heartwarming and from funny to harrowing—there's something for everyone.

"Our 10,000th digitized collection is of World War II Coast Guard veteran George A. Travers, who recounts his remarkable D-Day experience at Iwo Jima," Patrick said.

Travers' digitized interview can be found at **http://lcweb2.loc.gov/ diglib/vhp/story/loc.natlib.afc2001001.37943/.**

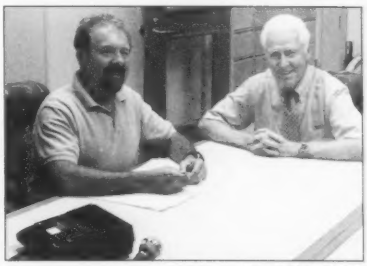
### New Experience War Collection

To mark Memorial Day 2011, the Veterans History Project added "Wings of War" to its Experiencing War series. The first-hand accounts of 24 military aviators are counted among the 10,000 collections now accessible online at **www.loc.gov/vets/.**

"Military aviation plays a critical role, not only during combat missions, but also during often-overlooked operations such as food and supply deliveries, search and rescue missions, and securely transporting the President of the United States," said Patrick. "The Veterans History Project is honored to present this latest web feature to show the many faces of military aviation with the hope that people will get a better understanding of and appreciation for this type of service."

Veterans History Project

**WWII Veteran George Travers aboard the ship LST-764, transporting Japanese soldiers from China to Sasebo, Japan, ca. 1945**



Veterans History Project

**Travers with his VHP interviewer recently at the Indian Prairie (Ill.) Public Library**

### VHP on iTunes U

Apple's iTunes U now features the Veterans History Project. Selected VHP stories, VHP information and guidelines are available for download at no cost at **http://itunes.apple.com/us/itunes-u/veterans-history-project/id438186138.**

"Classrooms nationwide use the VHP's materials to enhance student understanding of American history and engage with VHP through experiential learning, as well as performing a service to veterans and their communities," said Veterans History Project Director Bob Patrick.

The iTunes content is part of a proliferation of VHP online resources—including primary source sets available at **www.loc.gov/teachers/classroommaterials/primarysourcesets/**—and more than 10,000 digitized collections online at **www.loc.gov/vets/.**

Individual iTunes U channels also feature free VHP stories. More than 30 VHP interviews recorded at Michigan's Grand Valley State University are presented on its iTunes U channel page, **http://itunes.apple.com/us/itunes-u/veterans-history-project/id386256544**. Think TV's "World War II: Exploring Your Local History" also provided VHP interviews to the Ohio iTunes U channel, **http://itunes.apple.com/us/itunes-u-wwii-exploring-local-history/id286816399.** "World War II: Exploring Your Local History" is a high-school curriculum designed to engage students in learning about World War II and help students learn about the impact of the war in their own communities. ◆

### About the Veterans History Project

Congress created the Veterans History Project in 2000 as a national documentation program of the American Folklife Center (**www.loc.gov/folklife/**) to collect, preserve and make accessible the first-hand remembrances of American wartime veterans from World War I through the current conflicts in Iraq and Afghanistan, so that future generations may hear directly from veterans and better understand the realities of war.

Through a vast network of volunteers, both individuals and organizations, VHP receives an average of 100 to 200 new collections each week. After about a six-month processing period, every veteran receives his or her own web page on the VHP site, which provides users with basic information summarizing the veteran's military service.

Alongside all the collections of the Library of Congress, some VHP collections are selected for digitization according to Library standards and criteria. Collections with special preservation and stabilization needs are a priority. Veterans whose collections have been digitized are identified by a "view digital collection" button. From there, users may watch or listen to recorded interviews, view photographs, read letters, diaries or journal entries, and browse two-dimensional art.

## *News from the Center for the Book*

# Letters About Literature Winners

All photos courtesy Center for the Book

**Maryam Salah reads her letter in the Massachusetts State House in Boston; she learned that "outward appearance means nothing."**

One hundred fifty young readers across the country have been honored with state and national awards for their achievements in this year's Letters About Literature writing contest, sponsored by the Center for the Book in the Library of Congress in association with Target.

Six national winners received cash awards and also earned for their community or school library a $10,000 Letters About Literature reading-promotion grant. Twelve national honorable mention winners were also chosen, receiving cash awards and earning for their community or school library a $1,000 reading-promotion grant.

With funding provided by Target, the national reading-promotion program challenges young readers to write a personal letter to an author, describing how that author's work has changed their view of the world or of themselves.

More than 70,000 children in grades four through 12 participated this year. Students compete in one of three competition levels: elementary school, grades four through six; middle school, grades seven and eight; and high school, grades nine through 12. On the state level, the program is sponsored by affiliate state centers for the book. State and national judges include published authors, editors, publishers, librarians and teachers.

For information about the contest and to read the winning letters go to **www.lettersaboutliterature.org**. For further details, contact the national program director at lal@epix.net.

### National Winners

**Level 1 (Grades 4-6)**

Taylor Mathews, Searcy, Ark., Erin Hunter, "Into the Wild"

Maryam Salah, Shrewsbury, Mass., Jerry Spinelli, "Maniac Magee"

**Level 2 (Grades 7-8)**

Christian Lusardi, Ridgefield, Conn., George Selden, "The Cricket in Times Square"

Audrey Wood, Afton, Va., J.M. Barrie, "Peter Pan"

**Level 3 (Grades 9-12)**

Akash Kar, Saratoga, Calif., Jhumpa Lahiri, "The Namesake"

Ashli Bynum, Ada, Mich., Marge Piercy, "Barbie Doll"

*Below are excerpts from letters written by the six national winners:*

### Written by Taylor Mathews to Erin Hunter, author of "Into the Wild"

"Before I read your book, I knew many kids who loved to read, but I was not one of them. My posse of friends and I often made fun of 'the readers.' We would tease them and call them names. ... However, all that changed that fateful day my mom showed me your book, 'Into the Wild.' ... Without your books, I might still be that ignorant bully, teasing kids and missing out on one of life's greatest joys—reading."

### Written by Maryam Salah to Jerry Spinelli, author of "Maniac Magee"

"In your novel, 'Maniac Magee,' only a few had the courage to cross from one side [of Hector Street] to the other. Those were the characters that did not recognize or accept any difference between races ... Many times I wished that my divide was invisible, but as I walk through the mall in my head cover (hijab), I sense the divide ... Some people went from smiles to disapproval. Sadly, discrimination is real."

### Written by Christian Lusardi to George Selden, author of "The Cricket in Times Square"

"As if by fate, I read the book 'The Cricket in Times Square' at the beginning of fourth grade, right before I got sick. My [cancer] diagnosis in the middle of one scary Saturday night whisked me away from everything familiar to me without warning. Thoughts of Chester surviving in his new world inspired me to fight with all my strength and to keep fighting through the long haul. Chester and I not only survived, but thrived, despite the terrible odds against us. And, along the way, we both made some incredible new friends. Mine included a brave little cricket, and for that, I thank you."

**2011 Illinois Letters About Literature Winners visit the Secretary of State's State Capitol Office in Springfield. Secretary of State and State Librarian Jesse White congratulates, from left, Level II winner Naasir Haleem of Naperville, Level III winner Stacie Cler of Bloomington and Level I winner and National Honor winner Conrad Oberhaus of Lincolnshire.**

**National winner Taylor Mathews accepts his award at Southwest Middle School in Searcy, Ark., from Crystal Long, Arkansas Center for the Book coordinator, and Guy Lamolinara of the Center for the Book in the Library of Congress.**

**Written by Audrey Wood to J.M. Barrie, "Peter Pan"**

"Some people lose touch with the magic in their lives as they get older. 'Peter Pan' reminds people of the magic in their lives. ... Reading 'Peter Pan' when I was little is a part of what makes me, me. 'Peter Pan' taught my family to find the magic and adventure in life. Sometimes seeing the magic in life is almost as easy as swallowing candy and sometimes it's much more difficult. ... Of all the books, poems, plays, and speeches I have ever read or listened to, yours made the biggest impact on me and my family."

**Written by Akash Kar to Jhumpa Lahiri, author of "The Namesake"**

"For a few magical hours, I had the opportunity to sit in front of a mirror and reflect on my past, my present, my future, my family and my heritage. No, I did not literally sit in the bathroom on a chair, but I read your personally touching novel 'The Namesake.' The book moved me to tears at points, thinking of how Gogol struggles to follow his culture over his own personal desires; how Ashima must keep her culture alive as she assimilates to life in the United States; and how Moushumi has to lie to her parents in order to study in the field she chooses. ... I see these struggles happening on a day-to-day basis in my life, and reading this book gave me an opportunity to look at them from an outside perspective and allow me to reflect on what truly is important in life."

**Written by Ashli Bynum to Marge Piercy, author of "Barbie Doll"**

"I want to thank you for educating the world about the effects social standards truly have on young girls today. Maybe one day, the girl on the cover of the magazines will be replaced by someone who has Down syndrome, uses a wheelchair, is full figured or even has albinism. Every person has something to offer this world, no matter who they are or what they look like. After all, even though a can is damaged, it still holds the same contents as an undamaged can." ◆

**Melina George of Notre Dame Preparatory School, Towson, Md., reads her letter, which won first place for grades 4-6, during the state's Letters About Literature awards ceremony.**

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